(a) whether it is a fact that revitalization of the NEC has been identified as a "THRUST AREA";

(b) if so, whether Government have received any recommendations in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Committee on Revitalisation of NEC, constituted by the Government has submitted its report on 30.7.2004. The major recommendations made by the Committee relate to composition of the Council, strengthening of organizational set-up of the NEC Secretariat, regional planning for sustainable growth and development of NER, financing and implementation of the regional plan, monitoring and evaluation of development projects, establishing synergies with development partners, role of NEC in border trade and operationalising NEC's mandate on security and public order.

Atrocities on SCs/STs in Madhya Pradesh

†*395. SHRI P.K MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of atrocities registered in Madhya Pradesh under the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, during the last three years, district-wise;

(b) the number of cases in which prosecution was initiated, district-wise;

(c) the number of accused in these cases who were found guilty and punished by the court; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to prevent atrocities on the persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the State?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR): (a) to (c) The number of cases registered, prosecuted and convicted in the courts under the Scheduled Castes and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 during the years 2001 to 2003, in respect of Madhya Pradesh are given below:—

Year	Number of cases registered durinq the year	Number of cases prosecuted in the courts including brought forward cases.	Number of cases ending in conviction during the year
2001	4432	12765	547
2002	6758	16511	887
2003	5087	17859	734

The district-wise figures are not maintained.

(a) The State Governments and Union Territory Administrations are addressed from time to time to implement the provisions of the Act in letter and spirit and to also take necessary steps towards setting up of exclusive special courts, sensitization of the investigating officers, ensuring registration of First Information Report (FIR), timely investigation of cases and filing of charge sheets in the courts, giving particular attention for maintenance of law and order in the identified atrocity prone areas. Under a Centrally sponsored Scheme for implementation of the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 and the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations are also sanctioned Central assistance mainly for strengthening of the enforcement and judicial machinery, apart from incentives for inter-caste marriages, relief and rehabilitation of the affected persons.

In Madhya Pradesh, the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes Protection Cell, headed by the Additional Director Genera! Of Police has been functioning at the State level and under the Cell, special police stations have been set up in headquarters of 45 districts. Further exclusive special courts for trial of offences under the Act have also been set up in 29 districts in the State. The Contingency Plan in accordance with Rule 15 of the Rules under the Act has also been formulated by Government of Madhya Pradesh for implementing provisions of the Act. Further, the State Government in accordance with Rule 9 has nominated the Secretary, Scheduled Caste Development as Nodal Officer for quarterly review of relief and rehabilitation and disposal of cases. Likewise as required under Rule 10, the State Government at district level has declared an officer of

the rank of Additional District Magistrate as Special Officer to coordinate with the District Magistrate, Superintendent of Police or other officers responsible for implementing provisions of the Act. The State Level Committee under the Chairpersonship of Chief Minister and District Vigilance & Monitoring Committee under the Chairpersonship of the Collector are also functioning to review the effective implementation of the Act. The State Government also organises awareness camps and Sadbhavna Shivirs in the atrocity prone areas and areas predominantly inhabited by Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Outstanding dues of Doordarshan

*396. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:
SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Doordarshan has decided to boost revenue by getting back some of its outstanding dues from the well known producers who owe it; and

(b; if so, the dues involved and the follow up action Government have taken to recover it?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) Prasar Bharati has informed that as on 16.08.2004 Doordarshan has outstanding dues amounting to Rs. 213.57 crore against various producess, marketing and advertising agencies. This figure does not include interest charges. The Prasar Bharati has taken following steps for recovery of dues:

1. The accreditation rule has been revised for the agencies and now the marketing agencies have to submit a bank guarantee for Rs. 25,00,000/- (Rupees Twenty Five Lakhs only) which was earlier for Rs. 3,00,000/- (Rupees Three Lakhs only).
2. To secure Doordarshan's revenue and to cover the credit period the bank guarantee amount for running serials has been enhanced to eight weeks of the telecast fee instead of six weeks. In the case of high value events, 100% bank guarantee of the minimum assured revenue is taken.